



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK

Appl. No. : 10/612,906 Confirmation No. 4320  
Applicant : M. ARAKI et al  
Filed : July 7, 2003  
Titled : STORAGE SYSTEM  
TC/A.U. : 2181  
Examiner : H. Kim  
Docket No. : ASA-843-03  
Customer No.: 24956

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop AF  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 31, 2006 Applicants respond as follows. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and appropriate fee accompany this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.